<u>Hong Kong film "Drifting" screens at</u> <u>Toronto Reel Asian International Film</u> <u>Festival (with photo)</u>

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (Toronto ETO) is sponsoring the virtual screening of the Hong Kong film "Drifting" at the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Canada's largest Asian film festival, from November 10 to 19 (Toronto time).

Speaking before the screening of "Drifting" in a pre-recorded message, the Director of the Toronto ETO, Ms Emily Mo, said that the office is honoured to be partnering with Reel Asian again on its 25th anniversary to present the Ontario premiere of "Drifting" to a Canadian audience. Ms Mo noted that the film "Drifting" is directed by a young Hong Kong moviemaker, Jun Li, and features an outstanding ensemble of actors including stars Francis Ng, Tse Kwan-ho and Loletta Lee.

Hong Kong has been making movies for more than a century, and has been one of the favourite locations for filmmakers around the globe. "In the past decade, Hong Kong movies and moviemakers won over 500 international awards. This film, 'Drifting', taking a closer look at Hong Kong's homeless people, has been selected for various international film festivals including the Hong Kong International Film Festival, the Far East Film Festival in Italy, the Zurich Film Festival and many others," Ms Mo said.

She added that in order to support the Hong Kong film industry, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has been adopting a multipronged approach in boosting its development. "We finance the production of small- to medium-budget films, provide funding support for the industry to attend film festivals overseas, and subsidise training programmes to help nurture young promising talents," Ms Mo said.

Before closing, Ms Mo thanked Reel Asian for bringing many Hong Kong films to Canadian audiences over the years. She remarked that the Toronto ETO will continue to support Hong Kong films to participate in various international film festivals held in Canada, including Reel Asian.

